

Checkmates



Ron Langill of Waterloo (left) and Ian Atkin of Eden Mills play a friendly game of chess at the Conestoga Active Tournament at Conestoga College's Doon Campus June 4. Both men are members of the Canadian Federation of Chess. (Photo by Kelly Spencer)

'College in good financial shape'

Governors approve 1995-1996 budget

By Patricia Bow

The board of governors of Conestoga College met May 29 to approve the budget for the coming year and receive news of developments in curriculum, administration and community relations.

Kevin Mullan, vice-president of finance, presented an overview of the budget. He said operating revenue and expenditure will both be reduced by about one per cent, compared to 1994-95. The college will have a \$181,000 surplus this year.

The budget shows the labor-intensive character of the college, Mullan said, in that 85 per cent of expenditure is devoted to salaries and benefits.

The college is in good financial shape, he said. Conestoga is in the "top 10 per cent" of community colleges in its ability to withstand the recessionary times.

Reporting for the finance and audit sub-committee, board member Jennifer Horner said the final financial statement for 1994-95 will be ready for the June 26 meeting of the board.

Chair Helen Friedman reported for the executive committee that applications from prospective new board members are now being evaluated and the committee hopes to bring the candidates before the board in June. She also said the board will vote on a new slate of executive officers at the June meeting.

Friedman said the school of business is expected to be ready by September. The official opening date has been moved

from Sept. 25 to Sept. 18. The board meeting for that month has been moved to Sept. 18 so board members can take part in the opening ceremony.

John MacKenzie, vice-president of student development and human resources, reported for the academic and student affairs committee. He said figures released by the registrar's office show the number of applications to the college is down 6.9 per cent this year.

However, the ratio of applicants to places available is still healthy, he said.

In response to a question from the chair, president John Tibbits said "it is fair to say there is a slow upward trend" in the numbers of women applying to technology programs.

He also said there are plans to expand the pre-technology program, which is designed to help students improve their numeracy and literacy before entering technology programs. Women students are most likely to start off with poor math skills and to benefit from a pre-technology program, he said.

Tibbits briefed the board on news from the president's office. He said five president's forums have been held this year so far, and one more will be held. The forums, which primarily focused on the strategic plan and the budget, were well attended, he said.

He also reported that in October, the college will be host to a visiting delegation of German educators. The tour, to be organized by the Association of Community Colleges of Canada, will introduce

the visitors to the region's manufacturing scene and will include a trip to Niagara Falls.

In other business, Tibbits said the Waterloo County Board of Education has moved into the field of technological training in competition with Conestoga College. He said the board of education has been offering free training in electroplating and he questioned how free the programs can be, since the board is funded by taxpayers' money.

Tibbits said the provincial government has been asked to look into the matter.

Further, Tibbits announced the appointment of Bill Easdale as vice-president of the school of business. He said he hopes Easdale, a former Toyota vice-president, will help bring the college into a closer relationship with business.

Easdale's major role will be to implement the "strategic thrusts" of the 1995-2000 plan, rather than to deal with day-to-day administrative details.

"We want Conestoga to be the best school of business around, at the college level," Tibbits said.

In other business, the opportunity of taking any grant-supported course at Conestoga College for \$20, if space is available, has been extended from college staff to the members of the board of governors.

Some items of business were tabled until the board of governor's June meeting. These included the proposed illness and injury policy for the college and an amendment to the pension plan.

"Keeping Conestoga College connected"

This week in the news

Babcock and Wilcox gives awards

The international division of Babcock and Wilcox, a Cambridge manufacturing company, awards a yearly scholarship to two students from Conestoga's mechanical engineering program. This year's winners are Neville Zuzarte and Tim Wilkins.

For details see page 2

DSA opts out of lobby group

The Doon Student Association (DSA) has revoked its membership with the Ontario Community College Student Parliamentary Association (OCCSPA). DSA president Dawn Mittelholtz said it was a question of money, and added that the DSA is capable of doing the work that OCCSPA does for Conestoga students. OCCSPA president Paul Hamilton said it was an "irresponsible" decision during an election year and he will work to get the DSA to change its mind.

For details see page 3

Conestoga has strategic plan

Conestoga College administrators are putting the finishing touches on a strategic plan for the next five years.

The plan covers many aspects of Conestoga, from the college's mission to its values.

For details see page 3

New registrar's office bursary created

Gail Beggs worked in the registrar's office for 18 years, most recently in the area of student records. When she died on May 20, her co-workers decided to establish a bursary as a memorial to a woman they recall as genuinely interested in helping others at the college, whether staff or students.

For details see page 3

Election forum held at U of W

On May 30 the Doon Student Association joined the student governments of the two local universities to create a forum for students to ask provincial election candidates questions.

The forum was held on the University of Waterloo campus and six local candidates from four political parties gave speeches and answered questions.

For details see page 6

Doon hosts college challenge

Conestoga College will host the third annual college challenge at Doon campus on Friday, June 16. Fun, team spirit and co-operation will be emphasized as participants work together in a variety of competitive events, including obstacle courses.

For details see page 7

Leading and learning addressed at Doon

Education and change in the workforce were the themes of a leading and learning luncheon given at Doon campus May 30.

Keynote speaker Jim Clemmer discussed different messages which need to be communicated to those leading and working in today's society.

For details see page 7

Cats comes to Kitchener

Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Cats* made its second appearance at The Centre in the Square with great success, according to reviewer Patti Harding.

The dancing, singing and acting were superb, says Harding. Although the show is not cheap, she says, it is well worth the ticket price.

The performers received a standing ovation for their opening night from the dazzled crowd.

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CAMPUS NEWS

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News Briefs

Recognition for award winners

- A formal recognition night will be held June 15 for three awards recently given to Conestoga students. The gathering will acknowledge the achievements of students given the following awards: the Canada Scholars and Technology award, the Mastercraft Award and the Skills Canada awards. The event will take place in the woodworking centre at 7:30 p.m.

DSA books theatre troupe

- Rule of Thumb theatre troupe has been tentatively booked by the DSA for a September Orientation Week performance at Doon campus. The group's performance covers awareness of issues such as violence in relationships, sexual assault and gay relationships.

New program at Conestoga

- A new teacher training program will soon be offered at Conestoga through the college's continuing education program. The program is aimed at people in the industry who want to update their skills and knowledge in the field. Requirements are the completion of four compulsory courses and three optional courses.

DSA hires new assistant

- The DSA hired a new administrative assistant to fill the recently vacated position. Danielle Milner, a former Conestoga business management student, began work June 5 and will be in the DSA office Mondays to Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., during the summer. The DSA chose Milner from about 50 candidates who responded to an advertisement in the Kitchener-Waterloo Record.

DSA in corporate challenge

- Kitchener-Waterloo's chambers of commerce have asked the DSA to participate in the annual corporate challenge held in September. Conestoga College is represented at the event, but the DSA has never been represented. The idea was proposed last year and is being considered for September 1995. A variety of businesses participate in different games and activities during the day-long challenge. The event would cost the DSA approximately \$250. Some of the money goes into the operation of the event and all extra goes to charity. DSA president Dawn Mittelholtz said the challenge would be a good networking opportunity.

Doon campus tests new fire alarm

By Pete Smith

The annoying noises heard around Conestoga College's Doon Campus on Friday, June 2, were unfortunately, a necessary disturbance.

Conestoga installed a new \$43,000 fire alarm and tested it to make sure the new system was compatible with the electrical system.

It will replace the old system, which was installed when the campus was built almost 30 years ago.

Dave Putt, director of physical resources, said the college had added to its old system as buildings were updated with new wings being built. He said it was high time the college replaced the old system with something more state-of-the-art.

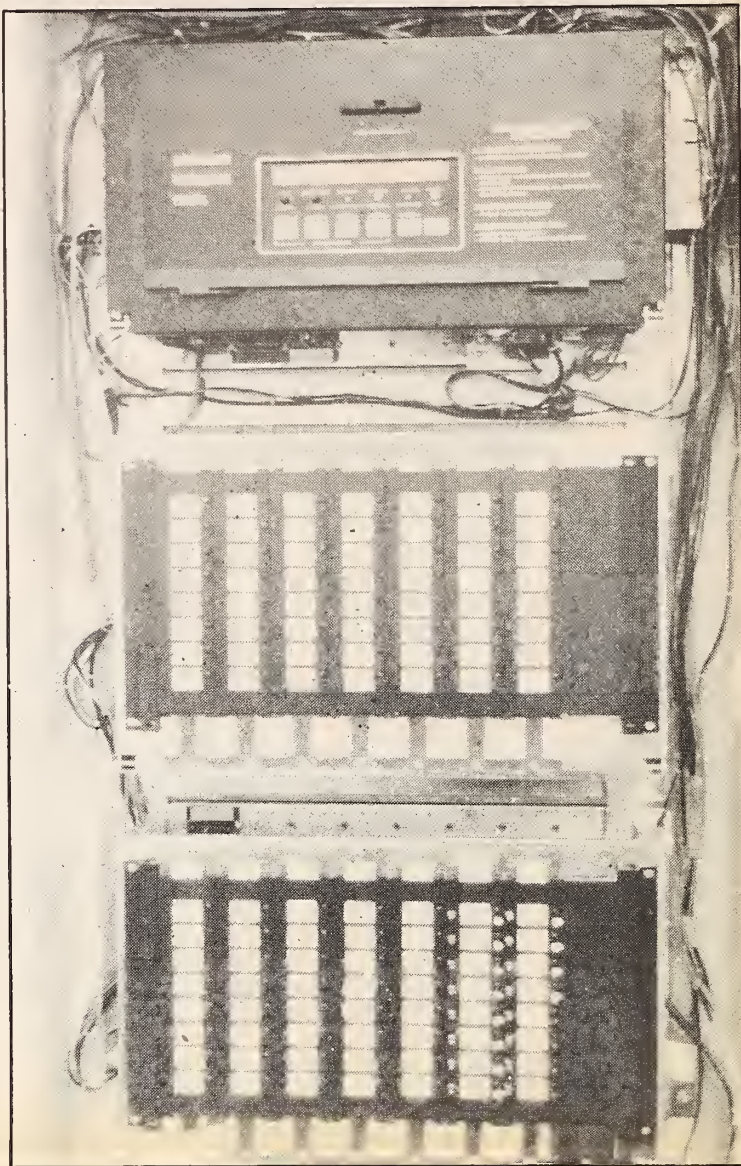
The main panel of the new system is located in the security office on the main floor. It is equipped with a print-out screen which gives information on where the fire is and when it started. It also determines whether the alarm was pulled, or sprinklers were set off. This is expected to greatly decrease an emergency response time by the fire department.

"It gets old and you start not to trust it," Putt said of the old alarm system.

Putt said the new system will last 25 years or more. "It should last long after I'm gone," he said.

Putt defened the college's choice to spend \$43,000 on the new system.

"We spend \$50,000 on the roof every year, so \$43,000 is not that unusual. This just happened to be the year we did it."



Conestoga College's Doon campus installed a new fire alarm last week. The new system cost \$43,000 and is state-of-the-art by today's standards.
(Photo by Pete Smith)

Going down?



Bob Lancaster, Otis mechanic (left) and supervisor Stan Oddic inspect the elevator inside Doon campus' Door 5 during the annual inspection.
(Photo by Kim Breese)

Cambridge firm presents 2 awards

By Jose Compta

Neville Zuzarte, a second year student in the mechanical engineering technology program, and winner of the scholarship award, said he was very pleased with the award.

"It makes you work harder in the program," he said.

Tim Wilkins and Neville Zuzarte, both Conestoga students, won the annual scholarship award provided by the Cambridge company Babcock and Wilcox.

Zuzarte works in the Fossil Engineering department at Babcock and Wilcox. He said he is enjoying the position.

"The job is challenging and is related to what I learned in college," he said. Now I am learning more. I am doing piping analysis and support design."

Paul Olinski, Babcock and Wilcox training and development manager, said this is the fourth year for the scholarship awards program. "It is very specific, and is only given to second year students of the mechanical engineering technology program," he said.

Olinski said the purpose of the awards is to recognize the accomplishments of the students and encourage them to pursue a career in his company. He said, "We, together with the college, work out a reasonable criteria to select the

applicants."

The college suggests four or five of the top students from that course.

The awards committee then selects the two winners for their academic achievements, leadership, and contribution to college and community life, Olinski said.

At third-year registration, winners receive a cash award of \$1,250 to be applied to tuition fees and books. They also receive a summer employment offer and the possibility of a full-time job at the end of their studies, said Olinski.

Tony Kattenhorn, manufacturing and computer-related studies teacher in the mechanical engineering program, said the Babcock and Wilcox scholarship awards for the mechanical engineering program are the highest cash awards given by the company.

Kattenhorn has been involved in the selection process during previous years.

Every year four students are selected according to their academic marks.

They are then presented to Babcock and Wilcox where they are interviewed and evaluated under other criteria.

"The two highest marks don't necessarily guarantee the awards," said Kattenhorn.

Four of the former award winners are now working full time for Babcock and Wilcox."

Tim Wilkins, a student in the mechanical engineering program, said he is happy to have won the award. Now he is working for the summer at Babcock and Wilcox Nuclear engineering department with 34 full-time engineers, some of whom have two Phds. He said it is overwhelming how much there is to learn.

"Babcock and Wilcox virtually will pay for any education you might need when working for them full-time. It is a good company that gives plenty of opportunities," he said.

Zuzarte said that it would be interesting to have a co-op system in the mechanical engineering technology program like the one that exists in the robotics program.

It would attract the students to get experience and would help both the college and the companies, said Zuzarte.

Yvonne Wilkins, wife of award winner Tim Wilkins, is thrilled about her husband's success.

"I am really proud of him," she said. "He works very hard. The scholarship will take a lot of pressure off him."

"He likes to study and if he works at the same time, it makes it very difficult," she said.

CAMPUS NEWS

Membership dropped

DSA opts out of provincial student association

By Linda Orsola Nagy

The Doon Student Association (DSA) has dropped its membership in the Ontario Community College Student Parliamentary Association (OCCSPA), a decision called "irresponsible" by the provincial group's president.

The decision came in a 7-1 secret ballot by DSA members at their executive meeting June 6.

DSA president Dawn Mittelholtz said the executive members had a lot of time to consider their feelings about renewing the membership and most felt it was not in the students' best interest to spend the money.

"We make decisions which affect every single student in Ontario colleges." Paul Hamilton

DSA vice-president of operations Tracey McKillop, the OCCSPA representative until the decision to pull out was made, said she felt everyone considered the best interest of the students in making the decision.

"We could make arrangements to provide any representation needed on a provincial or federal level," said McKillop.

But OCCSPA president Paul Hamilton said he questions whether the DSA can adequately represent Conestoga students on

issues at those levels.

"We make decisions which affect every single student in Ontario colleges," said Hamilton.

He said membership is vital in 1995-1996 because there is so much government talk about restructuring education.

"If we don't have the unification of all the colleges we're going to have a weak voice," he said.

However, Hamilton said he is not giving up on the DSA.

He said part of his mandate is to understand the individual concerns of all the colleges and he will work with Doon's student association to ensure concerns are addressed and to try to convince the DSA to reverse its decision.

DSA vice-president of student affairs April-Dawn Blackwell said the DSA can represent its students on issues for less money.

Blackwell said the decision reflected how members felt after a presentation to the DSA executive May 30 by Hamilton and OCCSPA executive director Heather Russell.

She said she felt some of the explanation of OCCSPA's budget changes were questionable.

"They've said they're moving offices for three years, but they haven't yet," she said.

Last year's DSA spent \$4,021.88 on OCCSPA-related business.

Out of that money, \$1,854 went to the membership fee, \$1,623.38 was spent on conference fees and

\$544.50 was spent on travel expenses by DSA members attending those conferences.

OCCSPA was created in 1975 to represent the educational needs of the college student and claims to have a representative on all provincial committees which deal with post-secondary education.

"We're there to ensure the students' best interest," said Hamilton after the DSA meeting May 30.

He said one of the goals of the association is to better promote itself, and that is why it spent \$8,000 in its latest budget to travel around the province and make sure students know about it.

"The educational concerns of the college student will always be our focus," said Hamilton.

OCCSPA was the only student group last year that was granted a meeting with Lloyd Axworthy, the federal minister of human resources, to discuss student questions and concerns after the announcement of cuts to transfer payments for the provinces, according to the group's literature.

The DSA was seeking something tangible that OCCSPA had done for Conestoga, said Mittelholtz.

It was a "cut and dried decision" to pull out of OCCSPA, said DSA entertainment assistant Gavin FitzPatrick.

The student association at Doon has a responsibility to make sure it spends its money wisely, he said.

"They were unable to supply us

with a list of their accomplishments," he said.

OCCSPA executive director Heather Russell told the DSA the provincial association provides a lot in the way of research facilities for its members.

When a school is dealing with a problem or issue, said Russell, the OCCSPA office can find out how other colleges are handling the same issue.

"We could do it on our own," said Mittelholtz in reference to the research OCCSPA offers.

"Nothing has come up in the past that we couldn't have done ourselves."

Dawn Mittelholtz

"Nothing has come up in the past that we couldn't have done ourselves," she said.

OCCSPA is encouraging schools to do things on their own, said Blackwell, referring to Hamilton's suggestion that Ontario colleges bear most of the responsibility for educating student voters before and after the June 8 provincial election.

"My understanding was that they'd represent us," she said.

Members weighed every option before voting, said McKillop.

The DSA is losing something but what it gains is independence, said DSA director of public relations Kerri Costello.

Administrators draw up new 5-year plan

By Paul Campbell

Conestoga College's administration had produced a strategic plan for the college.

The plan will be implemented over the next five years. The document has reached its final draft stage. It defines what the college's mission is and what its vision and values are.

Conestoga College president John Tibbitts said one of the most important aspects of this plan is its student success thrust.

Thrust in the plan is described as a commitment to student success. The plan's success is hoped to be accomplished by the college becoming more quality-conscious and client-oriented.

The plan outlines two changes to this student success trust.

The first is an increase to student success by ensuring applicants selected to a program have a reasonable chance of succeeding. Success will be determined through career focus and academic preparation.

The second change is for the college to improve student success in college education and training activities.

Once a final version of the plan has been created and approved it will be filed in the LRC, available for reading by any member of the college.

Employee remembered

Bursary honors worker's memory

By Patricia Bow

When Gail Beggs died on May 20, staff in the registrar's office at Conestoga's Doon campus looked for a fitting way to honor her memory. They came up with the idea of a bursary.

"A bursary is something that lasts," said Gail Resch, one of Beggs's co-workers. "It's a way of keeping her memory and her name here with us."

The award will be granted on the basis of financial need, but academic excellence will also be a qualifying factor, said college registrar Betty Martin.

It will be called the Office of the Registrar Bursary, to reflect the idea that everyone in the office wished to support the project.

Letters are now being sent throughout the college to raise contributions.

Martin said the bursary may be awarded as early as the coming fall.

During her 18 years with the college, Beggs worked in all areas of the registrar's office.

She was working in student records in May 1994 when she left work to begin treatment for cancer.

Martin said Beggs had been looking forward to returning to work after therapy but was never able to do so.

Staff members felt a bursary

would make a particularly fitting memorial, Resch said. "Gail was good with students. Quite a number of them would come in after they'd left the college, just to see her."

Brad Howarth, a faculty member in electronics technology, said Beggs had an excellent relationship with teaching staff and was always available to ensure students were properly enrolled, their marks recorded on time and any glitches worked out.

"She went well beyond her job specifics to help the students," he said.

Staff in the registrar's office remember Beggs as a smiling, generous woman who was always there for anyone, staff or student, who needed to talk.

She would drive you home in the middle of a blizzard if you didn't have a lift, Resch said.

"She did everything she could to help others," said Marilew Smart, another of Beggs's co-workers.

Over the years, Beggs organized food drives for the House of Friendship and initiated popcorn days for the K-W Hospital.

She also supported ROOF (Reaching Our Outdoor Friends,



Beggs

an agency which helps homeless people) and raised funds for cancer research.

Resch recalled Beggs organizing and doing most of the work for a Take Back the Night walk, a demonstration in support of women's safety and freedom of movement.

She was deeply concerned with women's issues, said co-worker Venice Lai.

As a member of the Elizabeth Fry Society, Beggs was also interested in helping the inmates of the future women's prison in Kitchener.

"Material things didn't matter to her," Lai said.

She said Beggs enjoyed the social services courses she was taking as she worked toward a degree at the University of Waterloo.

Beggs is also remembered as "the Pickle Lady," Smart said.

She loved to spend time in the kitchen making pickles and relishes, which she would make into gift baskets.

Once she appeared at a staff Halloween party in a chef's hat, her apron festooned with pickles and beets.

Co-worker Lori Fox said it was typical of Beggs that she often brought her baking into the office for others to enjoy.

"It was a labor of love," Fox said.

Beggs leaves a daughter, two sons and twin granddaughters.

Smart Machine



David Unrau, service technician for Red Carpet Food Services, repairs the new candy machine near door 5 at Conestoga's Doon Campus.

(Photo By Patricia Bow)

OutSPOKEn Opinions



"Keeping Conestoga College connected"

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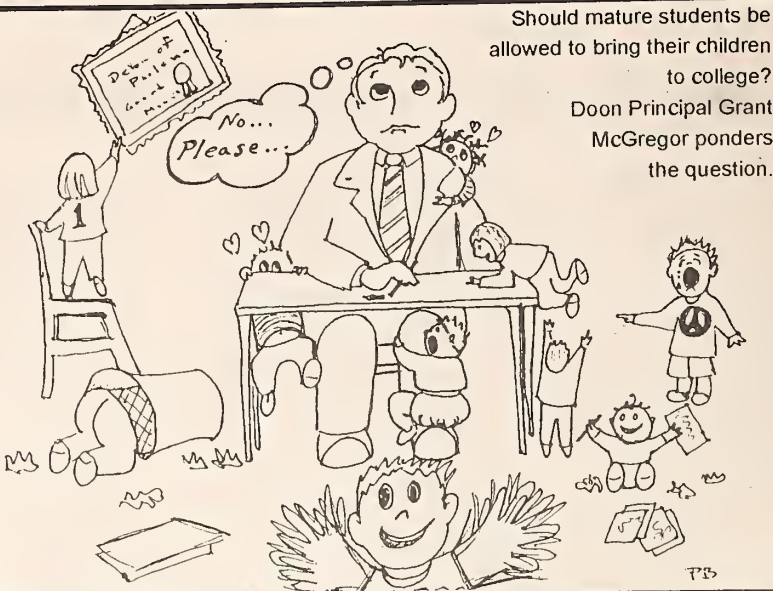
Conestoga
Corner



By
Don Ross

Marketing answer to sport woes

The University of Calgary may have arrived at a solution to the problem of dwindling fan support at Canadian collegiate sporting events. The university's Dinos recognized that attending one of their football, basketball, volleyball or hockey games was as much fun as a good flood, so they took steps to correct the situation. Together with The Agency Group, a local marketing company, they launched an aggressive image campaign last October. They trashed their old mascot, Dexter the Dinosaur, a lovable replica of Dino from the Flintstones cartoon, and introduced a new slogan ("Dinos rule the world"), surrounded by vicious claw marks. Since then, claw marks have turned up all over the city on special two-sided posters with cut-out slashes. Those using the city's transit system will find them in bus shelters, along with a variety of one-sided posters. The strategy paid immediate dividends. Barely a month into the campaign, two hockey games drew the most spectators in Dino history. The claw marks are also being used in print ads in the Calgary Herald and Calgary Sun. They can also be found on a line of slashed athletic clothing by Celebrity Sport Wear that is even selling in off-campus sporting stores. The Dino campaign also has radio spots which include a pounding six-second musical anthem, Dinos Rule the World, that are used for media promotion and events. There are also ticket giveaways to people who claw their Calgary Herald Dino ads. If the city of Calgary can get excited about school sports when there are plenty of pro teams competing for their attention, why can't the city of Kitchener, which only has junior hockey? Maybe Conestoga College just has to sell the Condors properly. The advantages in aggressive marketing are obvious: more community interest, a greater competitive interest among the athletes, and perhaps, if we can really stretch our imaginations, some notice from pro scouts. Canada is losing more ground each year to the United States in sports at the amateur level. Taking hockey as an example, in the United States, there are more and more collegiate hockey players being chosen in the NHL draft. These are kids who are not only interested in hockey, but are thinking of their academic futures as well. Canadian schools do not have the level of quality or recognition in their athletic departments these athletes require. The Michigan Wolverines are ranked second in the Big Ten U.S. college rankings and have no fewer than 12 Canadians on their roster. In the past, college hockey players were viewed as inferior products by NHL scouts. It was decided that their studies interfered with their dedication to a pro hockey career. That attitude began to change after the likes of Chris Chelios, Brian Leetch and Rod Brind'Amor emerged from college ranks to become NHL stars. In my view, there is no reason why we can't be at least competitive with the United States in college hockey. Maybe marketing is the best place to start.



Just A Thought. . .



By
Paul Campbell

Student tired of being a target

As a lifelong pedestrian, I have walked everywhere every time I had the chance and it never bothered me that I did not own a car. Walking has served me well over my 25 years and hiking through the streets has never been stressful. Drivers in Kitchener, Ontario, however, have managed to break my will to walk. What really bothers me is the flagrant lack of respect for pedestrians that some drivers have in this town. They are all too busy to give us time to cross a wide city street. People on foot are terrified into waiting endlessly, even in bitter winter weather, as drivers roll merrily by. Walkers can be in a hurry too, and they don't have the luxury of a heated interior or a radio with which to pass the time. Ignorant and selfish are the only words which can describe the wilful blindness drivers have to people suffering in the cold and heat. Worse still is some drivers' flat out defiance to the rules of the road. Students living in the residence should be wary of the way drivers pull left onto Homer Watson Boulevard and from Conestoga College Boulevard. According to Ontario law, drivers must wait for pedestrians to cross. They never do. Rarely, if ever, have drivers waited for me. There is precious little time to get through wider intersections on foot before drivers in Kitchener ram huge chrome bumpers at you with out a second's thought. Eye contact with them will

show you they care as little about you as they do about the last bug that hit their windshield. Twice, I was almost hit for no reason other than being in the way of a driver in a hurry. A bus driver, from Ayr Coach Lines, felt he didn't need to obey the law and roared on through the intersection, while I had to scramble to the curb. He did not brake or even slow down. It would have gone unnoticed by him if it had not been brought to the attention of his supervisor. The second time I was almost hit, a woman in a white Volkswagen Fox was nice enough to screeched her brakes. Both times, every indicator showed the right of way was mine. Of all the towns I have lived in, Kitchener is the most pedestrian hostile. The roads in the oldest part of town were poorly laid out for automobiles, with too many stop lights for drivers and walkers to avoid one another. Newer intersections in outlying areas are shooting galleries, where people on foot must run for their lives across unbelievable distances. The worst pedestrian-hostile intersection is at Fairway Road and Wilson Avenue, where a constant flow of high speed traffic boggles the mind. The crossing lights blink far too briefly, and multiple advanced greens send cars wheeling around in unpredictable patterns. I hope, in the long run, my experience with the rude drivers of Kitchener will leave me with compassion for those on foot when I have a car.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Smoking should be allowed in Roost

I don't understand why smoking is not allowed in the Roost. Perhaps I am not as gifted as others, perhaps a little less sophisticated, but it seems to me that smoking should be allowed in the Roost. It is, after all, for the students and built from student revenue. Since I smoke and pay tuition to attend Conestoga, I should be able to enjoy the Roost — with cigarette in hand. It seems odd that non-smoking health nuts would take offence. After all, the Roost is selling alcohol, a known liver killer. So I guess it is the lesser of the two evils — nah, just hypocritical. Why not ban drinking on campus altogether? It would create an atmosphere more conducive to learning. Besides, alcohol consumption might offend some people. Hey, while we are at it, let's get rid of the Roost altogether — it may cause students to skip classes and become dropouts. Maybe they should also look at those books in the LRC that might contain provocative materials and offend a minority, woman, or man. Since smokers pay for programs, resources

and faculty, which all students enjoy, it is only fair the college policies reflect the entire student body. At present, these policies do not and therefore they are unjust and unable to fulfil their role. So you don't have a vice? Good for you. I do. I don't like freezing my butt off during the mid-class puff-a-thon, or having to suppress my desire to smoke in a bar that fills the college's coffers. I should have some say and it should be equally valid. The situation should not be so slanted that the scales represent fish rather than justice. If you think I am way off-base, then why do you live in a democracy? There are still a few communist countries available for habitation. As for the health of our non-smoking counterparts, don't inhale and run very fast. As for the administration, sell lots of cigarettes at the Roost and keep the beer cold. Otherwise, the Roost won't be a nest and the Condor won't fly.

Robin Edwards
First-semester journalism

TAKING SIDES

Should mature students with children be given special privileges?

Lend a hand to mature students

By Nancy Usjak



Conestoga should do everything it can to help mature students who have children — mainly, single mothers trying to better their lives and their children's lives.

I know a student struggling through school who is single and has a four-year-old son. After watching her grapple with a heavy workload, inadequate child care and zero time, I am amazed at how she gets through the day without a nervous breakdown.

It only makes sense that Conestoga should offer child-care services to single-parent students.

After all, single-parent students don't want sympathy, they want help.

One way the college could help these frazzled students would be to provide a peer babysitting service to help single parents who can't afford child care.

The college should allow single parents to use students from the early childhood education program to babysit on weekends in exchange for credits.

Single-parent students become naturally frustrated when they are not permitted to bring their children into the classroom because there is no other available child care.

Another problem single-parent students face is the dilemma of deadlines set in concrete — unchangeable even for the most urgent of reasons, except when a doctor's note for the student is flashed.

Why won't instructors consider the fact that a student's child is home from day care for a week because of a bad cold as reason enough to hold off on a deadline. In this situation, changing deadlines isn't a special privilege, it's only common sense.

Not only do the single-parent students who are currently studying at Conestoga suffer because of the college's indifference towards their plight, but prospective students suffer as well.

Many students-to-be, who happen to be single parents, change their minds about Conestoga and maybe post-secondary education, period, after they see how apathetic the college is towards helping its single-parent students.

There are those who say no help should be given to single-parent students. This attitude sends a harsh message: Conestoga doesn't need you.

How are single mothers supposed to create better lives for themselves and their children if they can't attend college for a better career?

The cycle of poverty and despair will only continue for women who simply can't afford child care.

Fellow students should help their single-parent colleagues, while instructors should relax deadlines if they know their students' children are at home sick.

Conestoga must do more for single-parent students. Let's give them our help.

campus comments



"Yes. They have totally different circumstances than other students."

Tanya Fry
Early childhood education

"Yes. But there should be limitations on how far the privileges go."

Julie Wiszniowski
Mechanical engineering



"They should sometimes be given extra chances."

Seerwan Tawfik
Electronics engineering technology

"Overall, they shouldn't because people in the workforce with children aren't given things like extensions."

Becky Boertien
Student-life director

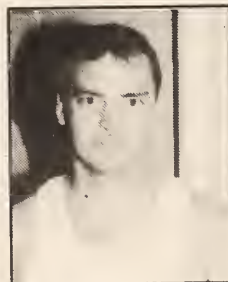


"Yes. That kind of student who has the motivation to take an education is worth special privileges."

Kiyohiko Tokunaga
Management studies

"It would depend on the course and the circumstances."

Ken Ringler
Robotics and automation



Special treatment unrealistic, unfair



By Linda Orsola Nagy

People who have children and decide to attend college should not receive special privileges.

It is unrealistic and unfair to let certain segments of a group get preferential treatment because of their life circumstances.

It is unrealistic because in the work world, which the student will eventually enter, she or he won't get special treatment because there are children at home.

It most likely will be normal for employees to have kids, and thus people will be expected to balance their home and work life themselves.

Very few, if any, exceptions are made in the workforce in these circumstances, so people understand even before they enter exactly what is expected of them.

It is definitely unfair to allow students with children to receive special treatment because it opens the floodgates to requests for privileges from all kinds of different groups which exist at a multi-faceted place like a community college.

Each individual who makes the decision to attend a post-secondary institution does so for particular reasons, and each brings a unique background.

It should therefore be obvious that with so many different situations, no one particular group should be recognized at the risk of alienating others.

When students first consider applying, they are given a very clear indication of what will be required of them. Nobody hides the fact that certain programs require a lot of work outside of class. There is no attempt to gloss over the reality that full-time students are expected to dedicate themselves to their studies.

Course calendars and information pamphlets are explicitly laid out so that no one can claim three weeks into a term that they did not know how much would be required of them.

Again, it would be unrealistic to allow students to think they can have this kind of treatment because reality will give them a cold, hard slap in the face when they enter the workforce.

It takes an incredible amount of dedication and hard work to simultaneously maintain a family and an education. Neither area can really afford to suffer.

So people must understand and accept all of the potential impact college might have on their personal lives before they decide to attend.

We cannot expect society to function properly if we give special privileges to some. It fosters a false perception of reality for the recipients and creates unjust distinctions in the eyes of others.

There is no merit in this type of treatment because it will only result in the creation of disadvantaged and disillusioned groups who do not receive the preferential treatment.

If we allow students with children special privileges, we run the risk of dissolving the realistic and practical environment that colleges are known for.

YES

Do you have any topical questions you want straight-forward answers to?
Send them to the editor or staff in Room 4B15, or call SPOKE at 748-5366.

NO

CONESTOGA LIFE

Lifestyles Editor: Don Ross 748-5366

Conestoga rookie media question rookie Liberal

By Don Ross

For the better part of two hours, Shelly Schlueter, Liberal candidate in the riding of Kitchener-Wilmot, encountered probing questions from Conestoga journalism students at a scheduled press conference May 31 at Doon campus.

The "rookie politician," as Schlueter calls herself, was able to parry each interrogational thrust on contentious Liberal stances surrounding health-care reform and revisions to the welfare system.

Most of the session, in fact, dealt with issues concerning the social safety net and the Liberal's intention to change it.

Schlueter said the Liberals will scrap the NDP's plan to roll local health-care agencies such as Red Cross and Meals on Wheels into costly Multi-Service Agencies.

"It is a very insidious system as it would create a scenario where the co-ordination and delivery of the services would be controlled by one body," she said.

"We also intend to do away with fee-for-service. Health care is the cornerstone of the Liberal party and it must be made more accessible."

Community health care also needs to be made more available, she said. People are being released

from the hospitals too early and not receiving help when they are out.

"I don't think the current two-tier system of health care will ever be eradicated, but we are certainly not going to encourage it," she said.

Schlueter said there has been no new legislation for family services in 4 1/2 years, and the Liberals' intent to name a key minister who will oversee counselling services for youngsters collecting welfare.

"It is too easy for 16-year-olds to get welfare," Schlueter said.

"We will have it for those who are forced to live outside the home rather than those who leave because they just can't stand the rules," she said.

She said she thinks counselling should be the first step for such an individual, not just handing out a cheque.

When discussing the Liberals' proposal to reduce the number of single parents on welfare, Schlueter echoed her party's view, which is to reduce welfare payments and replace them with training.

"Single mothers who cannot afford an education will be offered training in areas such as literacy and resume skills," she said.

Schlueter was emphatic when she said taxpayers should not have to pay for people who choose to stay



Liberal candidate Shelly Schlueter talks to journalism students as faculty member Sharon Dietz watches. (Photo by Don Ross)

at home and raise their kids, replying to a questioner who argued many single mothers do not earn enough to pay for child care.

Schlueter also said the Liberal government plans to get businesses to participate in helping those on welfare by implementing the Ontario Transition Initiative Plan (OTIP).

Schlueter said according to the plan, young people will be hired at a lesser wage, but they will gain in experience and receive a \$2,000 educational voucher.

She said, "I believe in an apprenticeship, co-op system, as it benefits both the employer and the

employee."

"We are going to cut the money given to businesses through job-sOntario and put it towards training," she said.

Schlueter said she would like to see the current Employment Equity Act transformed into a merit system where people are hired solely on the basis of their skills.

Schlueter said, "employment equity is hard to implement and too costly. An employer isn't going to be in favor of it if it costs money."

At present, a medium-sized company has to have a representative from the four major groups as well as do a demographic calculation of

their community she said. "It is bizarre."

"Minorities are actually outraged that people think they received their jobs through some sort of affirmative action."

"I think it is indicative of Mike Harris's line of thinking when he said handicapped people should be taken out of employment equity because the employer only gets half a worker," Schlueter said.

In response to all of the publicity surrounding paroled offenders, Schlueter said, "We are going to send initiatives to the Crown attorney's office, and from there to the police departments, for tougher sentences for violent offenders, as well as a central registry for violent sex offenders."

"We must get people who are not dangerous out of the jails and keep those that are, in," she said.

Schlueter also said she feels that parole board members should have stricter qualifications and be held more accountable for the people they release.

Schlueter said Ontario is in drastic need of a change, given that the NDP has not presented one new plan for the next four years.

"This is a real dodge, considering they are the incumbent party," she said.

Local candidate says she hates red tape

By Don Ross

Shelly Schlueter, Liberal candidate for the Kitchener-Wilmot riding, may have been content with her life as owner-operator of three car dealerships in Kitchener, if it had not been for the Ontario government.

"I found I was spending much of my time dealing with government red tape," Schlueter said.

She said she felt the present government has been intrusive. They were "always in everybody's face about their business and personal lives," she said.

Schlueter said she remembers ranting and raving about government intervention so much that her family and associates convinced her to seek the local Liberal nomination.

A long-time resident of Kitchener-Waterloo, Schlueter is currently vice-president of Schleuter Chevrolet-Olds Ltd. She is also the chair of the government relations committee for the Ontario and Toronto Automobile Dealers' Association.

"I found I was spending much of my time dealing with government red tape."

Schlueter

She was also on the board of directors for both the Health Care Village and Freeport Hospital in Kitchener.

Schlueter said, "It takes very strong organizational skills to run a campaign. It is run by a virtual army

of volunteers that have a strong belief in their candidate."

Schlueter said most female politicians get involved through issues. A lot of them are political activists, and few come up through the political process because if they did they would know how much work is involved.

"In organizing people to vote, we had to literally babysit their children in order to get them out."

Schlueter says she believes that because Kitchener-Wilmot was a wide-open nomination, with no clear, favored candidate, the nomination was easier for her to obtain than if there had been.

She said because John Sweeney retired in 1990, and Carl Zehr decided to run for mayor, there wasn't any longtime favorite candidate.

What's up?



Paul Ribbler inspects the roof in Conestoga's main building before beginning work. (Photo by Mark Waddell)

Candidates from four parties answer to local students

By Paul Campbell

Post-secondary education issues were at the forefront of an election debate May 31, a mere nine days before voters are scheduled to go to the polls to choose a new provincial government.

The all-candidates forum was organized by the University of Waterloo Federation of Students (WFS). The Doon Student Association (DSA) and the Wilfrid Laurier University Student Union were invited to join the WFS in providing this chance to meet local politicians.

Dawn Mittelholtz, president of the DSA, said she felt the event was a success, considering it was held in the off-season for post-secondary schools. She said she was concerned, however, with the lack

of comment on issues which concern Conestoga College.

During the forum, held at the UW campus, six candidates representing four parties answered questions over a two-hour period.

While all candidates running in the three provincial ridings (Waterloo North, Kitchener and Kitchener-Wilmot) which cover Kitchener-Waterloo were invited, not all attended. Shelly Schlueter, the Liberal candidate for Kitchener-Wilmot, was at Doon campus to answer questions from Conestoga journalism students.

Only the New Democrats sent all three of their candidates to the forum at UW. Mike Cooper, the NDP incumbent for Kitchener-Wilmot, attended with Hugh Miller and Sandy Ellis of his party.

The other three parties sent each

one of their candidates — Elizabeth Witmer, Progressive Conservative incumbent in Waterloo North, Bob Byron, who is the Liberal opponent in that riding and Ted Kryn, candidate for the Family Coalition Party (FCP) in Kitchener-Wilmot.

The forum allowed each candidate time to address the audience and finish with closing remarks. The majority of the time, however, was taken up by a question and answer session.

The WFS sent each of the politicians a list of possible questions they might face from a student group.

Concerns centred on the future of post-secondary education after the new provincial government drafts a budget.

Ontario has no provincial budget

at the moment, and the next government will have to deal with reductions in federal transfer payments to the provinces. The federal government no longer earmarks money for the provincial budget makers. Provinces must now make decisions on how to spread the money between health care, social services and education.

Elizabeth Witmer said the spending cuts proposed by PC leader Mike Harris would not be as severe as opponents have claimed. She said the cuts would only be \$400 million and not \$700 million. The majority of reductions would be to Ontario Training and Apprenticeship Plan, she said.

Bob Byron of the Liberal party said his party would not make any changes to post-secondary education until an advisory board had

been organized on the matter.

Ted Kryn of the FCP said there would be no new funding for education, and there was a need for greater responsibility with the use of funds presently available.

The three NDP candidates said they defended the right of everyone in the community to receive public education.

"If you want to talk about the future of education you need to talk about jobs," said Mike Cooper.

The students at the forum questioned the candidates on access to education in the coming years, tenure for university professors and changes to the Ontario Student Assistance Plan.

During the forum, the four parties were allowed time for only one member of their party to answer the question posed.

CONESTOGA LIFE

Lifelong learning is called key for the future

By Nicole Bardeau

The only way for Waterloo Region to compete in lifelong learning is to encourage lifelong learning, according to Kathi Smith, chair of the community committee on educational excellence.

"The only way for this region to compete in a global economy is through lifelong learning," Smith told about 120 members of the business, education and government sectors who attended a leading and learning luncheon hosted by Smith's committee at Doon on May 30.

Keynote speaker Jim Clemmer of The Clemmer Group

Inc. told the group there were six essential messages they needed to send out to the rest of society on the role of management and continuous learning in the workforce.

The theme during the past few years has been change, said Clemmer. "Change is normal. We have to learn how to deal with it in an ongoing situation."

Innovation is now more important than ever, he said. Competitiveness

— speed — is more important than size. Clemmer said, "Our goal as leaders is to ask ourselves 'how do we continue to sell ourselves as the best alternative?'"

To accomplish this, he said, the work ethic has to change to shared management. "We have to involve the people more in the day-to-day decisions."

He said the second message was

management," he said.

"We have to go beyond change and learning as something we need to survive. Too many people treat their education as an inoculation shot — one shot and they are set for life."

The fourth message, Clemmer told the audience, is that continuous learning is pivotal to performance improvement. "It is the top performing organizations which invest heavily in learning and training development," he said.

Leaders are made, not born, is the fifth message we need to communicate, Clemmer continued. "We do have a lot of

choices around us about where we can take our lives and we can develop leadership skills," said Clemmer.

Clemmer explained that learning can be accelerated in a supportive environment. "Behavior is the function of the person times the environment," he said. "In change, you can focus on one or the other of this equation, but most effective change is looking at both together."

LEADING & LEARNING

one of choice. Leaders must decide what their tools for choice are, he said. "To quote Maslow, 'If the only tool we have is a hammer, everything looks like a nail,'" said Clemmer.

The type of tool we choose equals the choices we make, he said.

Clemmer told the group change is part of the learning and growth development process. "The third message is getting beyond change



Members of the business, government and education communities fill their plates, before filling their minds with information from Jim Clemmer.

(Photo by Nicole Bardeau)

Feedback from the group generated additional messages regarding leading and learning. Various members of the audience discussed messages such as: education is eve-

ryone's business; resources exist everywhere, they just have to be recovered; if this community doesn't buy into education, others will "eat our lunch."

Conestoga College ready for 'wacky sports' day

By Kim Breese

Conestoga College will host the third annual College Challenge at the Doon campus on Friday, June 16, said co-chair of the event planning committee, Adrian Hart.

Hart, a computer programmer analyst at Doon, said nine teams consisting of 10 participants each are expected from five colleges, including Niagara, Sheridan, Loyalist, Centennial and Conestoga.

The challenge is a day of "wacky sports," and is modelled along the same line as community corporate challenges, said Hart. The program runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$20 per person and includes a T-shirt, morning refreshments, lunch and a team video.

"The intent is to build communication between colleges," said Hart. People will also have the chance to put faces to the voices they hear at the end of the phone line on a regular basis. Another goal is to build team spirit and group effort through co-operation and teamwork, he said.

Hart said the planning committee cannot reveal details of the individual events because that would give Conestoga an unfair advantage in the competitions. However, he did say there were five events planned for the morning, which would take about 2 1/2 hours to complete, and a group event scheduled in the afternoon.

Some of the team events at last year's challenge, which was held

at Centennial College, included mummy-wrapping with toilet paper, guiding a balloon with a stick around pylons and up and down a hill, and picking up marbles with oven mitts and trying to send the marbles through a hose. Everyone participated in all the team events.

Hart said this year's challenge, which will be held outside the recreation centre, promises to be equally interesting. Only one event involves water and in case of rain, that event will be dropped and the remaining activities moved inside.

Co-chair of the event is Hart's wife, Linda Hart, who works in the Training Investment/Ontario Skills Development office on Trillium Drive.

She said, "A lot of the people involved in the planning or inputting a team together have been involved in the community corporate challenge before, so they have an idea of what the day is all about."

She said Conestoga is entering two teams — one made up of workers from the Access faculty and one that consists of faculty and support staff from Doon. However, she added that the whole college can get involved that day by participating in the western theme of the event. Anyone interested in dressing "western" on June 16, can do so by buying a sticker for \$2 that says, "I'm dressed this way in support of United Way."

Niagara College won the challenge last year.

Dinner promotes wheelchair access

By Pete Smith

Approximately 150 people were in attendance from noon until 1:30 p.m. for the National Access Awareness Week's (NAAW) '95 kick-off luncheon Monday, May 29.

The NAAW is an organization dedicated to informing the public about wheelchair and scooter access, safety and misconceptions about disabled people.

The luncheon was highlighted by a speech from paralympic athlete Joanne Bouw. Bouw was born with cerebral palsy which disabled the right side of her body. She represented Canada in the Disabled Olympics held in Barcelona in 1992. Today she works as a pharmacist in St. Catharines, Ont. The topic of her speech was motivation accessibility and the value of participation by people with disabilities.

Off Campus

She also talked about the lack of strong disabled role models in sports or other areas, and the importance of disabled people setting goals for themselves.

"This week is a fine opportunity to showcase our abilities," Bouw said after the luncheon. "So often the focus is on our disability."

The week was opened by the emcee, Larry Mellote, a deejay at CJOY/Magic in Guelph. Mellote reviewed the events of the upcoming week as well as thanking sponsors.

He also thanked Scouter Ward from the Ministry of Citizenship for making an appearance at the luncheon and expressed regret that local political candidates Brenda Chamberlain and Ted Arnott could not attend along with Guelph Mayor Joe Young.

Mellote then introduced NAAW Chair Brian Mabey, who welcomed guests to the luncheon.

"There's still a lot of work to be done in making things accessible for the disabled," said Mabey.

As an example of inaccessibility, Mabey pointed to the curbs in Riverside Park in Guelph, which are too high for wheelchairs to negotiate.

"The designer of those curbs has yet to see the light," he said. "Some people with disabilities in Guelph have contacted the mayor about it already."

Other highlights of the week included an employer recognition breakfast, Wednesday, May 31, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Cutten Club, 190 College Avenue E., Guelph.

On Thursday, June 1, there was an assistance devices clinic and wheelchair clinic at the Stone Road Mall in Guelph.



Paralympic athlete Joanne Bouw addresses the crowd at the National Access Awareness Week luncheon held Monday, May 29, at the College Inn in Guelph. Bouw represented Canada at the 1992 Disabled Olympics in Barcelona, Spain.

(Photo By Pete Smith)

Entertainment

Entertainment Editor: Mark Waddell 748-5366

Jellicle moon shines on dazzling, entrancing *Cats*

By Patti Harding

Andrew Lloyd Webber's musical *Cats* received a standing ovation for its opening night performance at the Centre in the Square on May 29.

Cats, which is the longest running musical on Broadway and the third-longest running musical of all time, is based on *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats* by T.S. Eliot.

The talent of the actors and actresses is outstanding and shone through during the performance. Not only do the people display great skill at dancing and singing, but also encompass superb theatre skills.

Meeting the likes of cats such as Mr. Mistoffelees, the Rum Tum Tugger, Mungojerrie and Rumpleteazer, Jennyanydots and Old Deuteronomy, the audience is transported to a cat's world and lives a day in the life of a feline.

The story of *Cats* is simple and sweet and appeals to viewers of all ages. The entire musical is an introduction to the cats who are in line to be reborn.

Every year on the Jellicle night when the Jellicle moon comes out, all cats gather in the junkyard around the old and wise Deuteronomy and hope to be chosen to be reborn.

Only one cat is chosen every year and it is cause for great celebration.

The audience enjoyed solos by the Rum Tum Tugger, who dazzled all the lady cats with his good cat looks, sleek body and phenomenal voice, and the powerful singing of Grizabella, the glamor cat, a cat every other cat is afraid to touch or go near because she is old and worn out.

The audience also meets Mungojerrie and Rumpleteazer, who never stay out of trouble, and the magical Mr. Mistoffelees, the mysterious conjuring cat.

The cast danced and sang with outstanding results: the audience loved them. Clapping after every

theatre review



Cats

Director: Trevor Nunn

solo, the audience seemed enveloped into the cats' world.

There is always something happening on stage, from the company singing about the naming of cats to a single cat such as Asparagus, or Gus as he is called, the theatre cat, singing about his recollections of the

theatre.

Cats has become the longest running musical in British history, with over 42 productions. More recently, productions have run in Argentina and Denmark. There are also new touring companies in the United Kingdom and Southeast

Asia.

Cats, which has grossed over \$2 billion worldwide, has made four times more than Steven Spielberg's movie, *E.T.*, which grossed \$400 million.

The costumes and makeup were outstanding and have helped make the musical the success it is today.

All the wigs, with the exception of one, are made out of yak hair.

"Yak hair is very coarse and very durable," said production hair stylist supervisor Leon Gagliardi.

"You can mash it down and it springs right back. It is also impervious to water and perspiration. No human or synthetic hair could possibly hold up in a show like *Cats*: Yak hair is what makes the wigs for *Cats* so unique."

The only wig that is not made of Yak hair is Grizabella's. Her wig is made from human hair.

Cats is a musical that can be seen again and again. From the dancing to the costumes, it is a worthwhile show to take in no matter what age you are.



Munkustrap (Randy Clements, left) fights it out with the evil Macavity (Taylor Wicker, right) in *Cats*, the award-winning musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber. The performance at Kitchener's Centre in the Square is directed by Trevor Nunn. (Photo courtesy of Carol Rosegg)

Pub Staff REQUIRED

The Doon Student Association requires pub staff for on-campus licenced events. Various positions include: bartenders, security, door persons, and floor walkers. Pub staff will be paid on an hourly basis; hours vary depending on pub schedule. Individuals will be trained on the SMART Serve Program.

Applications available at the DSA Office located in the Main Cafe.

Application Deadline JUNE 30, 1995



Used Book Sale

Do you have text books to sell?
The DSA will sell your books for you at the
DSA USED BOOK SALE.

AUGUST 28- 31

10 am - 2 pm daily

Student Lounge

Books to be sold may be
dropped off at the
DSA Office no later than
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